

**REMARKS**

By this Amendment, the title is amended, as the Examiner requested. Claim 1 is amended, claim 2 is canceled and claims 5 and 6 are added. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3-6 are pending in this application.

The Office Action objects to the title. The title is amended. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the title is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0138073 to Intintoli et al. (Intintoli). This rejection is moot with respect to canceled claim 2, and is respectfully traversed with respect to the remaining claims.

The Office Action asserts that Intintoli discloses all elements recited in claims 1, 3 and 4. Applicants respectfully submit that Intintoli does not disclose or suggest an optical fiber is movable relative to the collet during diagnosis of the combustion condition, as recited in claim 1.

Intintoli discloses a probe having an optical fiber 12 and an end plug 34. See Fig. 1 and paragraphs [0043] and [0044]. The end of the optical fiber 12 is separated from the end plug (collet) 34 by three sections 24A, 24B and 24C, and by two optical spacers 26A and 26B. See Fig. 1 and paragraph [0044]. Intintoli appears to disclose an optical fiber that is separate from a collet, but does not disclose or suggest an optical fiber that is movable relative to the collet. Therefore, Intintoli does not disclose or suggest an optical fiber is movable relative to the collet during diagnosis of the combustion condition, as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that Intintoli does not disclose or suggest an optical fiber probe for diagnosing a combustion condition in a combustor, as recited in claim 1.

The probe disclosed in Intintoli is a surgical probe. See paragraph [0001]. As is known, the surgical probe is not expected to be used under high temperatures for, for example, diagnosing a combustion condition in a combustor. Therefore, Intintoli does not disclose or suggest an optical fiber probe for diagnosing a combustion condition in a combustor, as recited in claim 1.

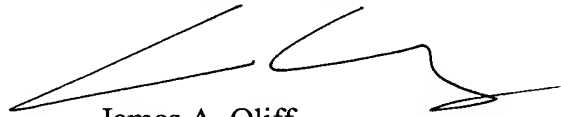
For any of the above reasons, Intintoli does not disclose each and every element recited in claim 1. Thus, Intintoli does not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claim 1, and claims 3 and 4 depending therefrom. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

It is also respectfully submitted that claim 5 is patentable over Intintoli at least in view of the patentability of claim 1, from which it depends, as well as for the additional features it recites. For example, Intintoli does not disclose or suggest an optical fiber and a collet that are heat-resistant, as recited in claim 5. Also, Intinoli does not disclose or suggest that the optical fiber extends through the collet, as recited in claim 6.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1 and 3-6 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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